

Clean Version of Replacement Paragraphs and Claims

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 1, insert --This is a division of
Application Serial No. 09/465,507, filed December 16, 1999.--

✓
✓ Please cancel the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 2, and
replace with the following replacement paragraph:

a2
The present invention relates to utility vehicle storage
boxes. Specifically, the storage box has a cam latching design
which catches when the lid is open.

✓
Please cancel the paragraphs beginning on page 4, line 11,
through the paragraphs ending on page 6, line 5, and ✓ replace with
the following replacement paragraphs:

It has been recognized that it would be advantageous to
develop a vehicle storage box with a latch that catches when the
lid is still open. In addition, it has been recognized that it
would be advantageous to develop a vehicle storage box which
facilitates closing and locking of an overfilled box.

a3
The invention provides a vehicle storage box with a lid
pivotally connected to a base structure, and a lid coupler with a
first coupling position advantageously occurring when the lid is
in an opened position. The lid coupler is connected to the lid
and the base structure, and shaped to releasably couple the lid
to the base structure. The lid coupler includes a lid latch and
a lid actuator. The lid actuator advantageously includes a

hooking cam to engage the lid latch while the lid is in an opened position. Thus, as the lid actuator is rotated, the lid latch tracks along the hooking cam of the lid actuator while the lid is pulled down.

In accordance with one aspect of the present invention, the base structure is configured to attach to a vehicle, and has a length sized to fit between side walls of a truck bed.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, the lid actuator rotates substantially 180 degrees such that the lid latch is forced through cam action motion.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, the hooking cam includes a hook, a cam, and a notch. The notch is shaped and positioned to receive and retain the lid actuator when the lid is in a closed and secured position.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, the lid coupler includes first and second adjustable lid actuators, and first and second adjustable lid latches. The first and second lid actuators can be coupled together by a lid actuator connector for simultaneous operation of the first and second lid actuators. A cable and pulley system can include a pulley coupled to each of the lid actuators, and connected by a cable.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, the first and second lid latches are substantially L-shaped